

Docket No. 003636.0134US
U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/028,267

PATENT

REMARKS

Pending Claims

Claims 1-8 and 10-20 are pending. In the Office Action, claims 1-7, 16-17, and 19-20 were allowed. Claims 9-10, 11-15, and 18 were objected to and claim 8 was rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Karaoguz et al. (U.S. Pat. Appl. Pub. No. 2002/0059434 A1).

Allowable Subject Matter

Preliminarily, the Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-7, 16-17, and 19-20 are allowable and that claims 9-10, 11-15, and 18 include allowable subject matter.

Claim Objections

Claims 11-15 and claim 18 were objected to because of minor formalities. Claims 11 and 18 are amended herein to correct the minor informalities. Accordingly, these claims are believed to be allowable.

Objection to the Specification

The abstract was objected to as being longer than 150 words. The abstract, enclosed on a separate page, is amended herein to be less than 150 words. Accordingly, the Applicants request withdrawal of this objection.

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102 Rejection

Claim 8 was rejected under 35 USC § 102(e) as being anticipated by Karaoguz et al. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 9 was objected to as including allowable subject matter. The features of claim 9 have been added to independent claim 8. Accordingly, claim 8 is now believed to be allowable.

CONCLUSION

As all of the outstanding rejections have been traversed and all of the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance, the Applicants respectfully request issuance of a Notice of Allowability. If the undersigned attorney can assist in any matters regarding examination of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call at the number listed below.

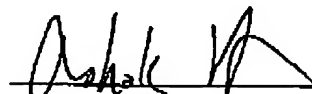
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Respectfully submitted,

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